

PREAMBLE

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6. An explanation of the rule, including the agency's reasons for initiating the rule, including the statutory citation to the exemption from the regular rulemaking procedures:

The State Board of Education is required to supervise and control the certification of educators in Arizona. The proposed changes to the Emergency Teaching Certificates are necessary to ensure that the State is complying with federal requirements related to highly qualified educators. The proposed changes to the Intern Teaching Certificates are necessary to accommodate alternative certification programs, including the program contemplated in A.R.S. 15-552.

Statute or Session Law Authorizing the Exemption: A.R.S. § 41-1005(F).

7. A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and either relied on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule or did not rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:

N/A

8. A showing of good cause why the rule is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rule will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

N/A

9. The summary of the economic, small business and consumer impact:

The rules are not expected to have significant, if any, economic impact on small businesses, school districts or charter schools.

10. A description of the changes between the proposed rules, including supplemental notices and final rules (if applicable):

R7-2-612 (D)(5)(d)(i): Removed the requirement that schools advertise vacant positions specifically through the Arizona Department of Education's Employment Board website. Also, language was added to clarify that school districts and charter schools must advertise positions with at least three institutions of higher education.

R7-2-612(D)(5)(d)(ii): Added an exception to the requirement that schools participate in an alternative paths to certification program. The exception states that this requirement may be waived if a district superintendent or charter school administrator provides evidence that an alternative path to certification program is either not available or not capable of alleviating the emergency employment situation.

11. A summary of the comments made regarding the rule and the agency response to them:

Comment

Comments suggested that it would not be appropriate or effective to require districts and charter schools to post job openings on a specified website.

Agency Response

The agency determined that the proposed rule could be modified to remove reference to specific websites.

Comment

Comments expressed concern regarding the feasibility of requiring districts to place teachers in the classroom through use of an alternative path to certification program.

Agency Response

The agency recognized that under certain circumstances an alternative path to certification program may be unavailable or incapable of alleviating an

emergency employment situation. The proposed rules were modified to provide for an exemption to this requirement.

12. Any other matters prescribed by statute that are applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules:

N/A

13. Incorporations by reference and their location in the rules:

N/A

14. Was this rule previously made as an emergency rule? If so, please indicate the Register citation:

N/A

15. The full text of the rules follows:

TITLE 7. EDUCATION
CHAPTER 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ARTICLE 6. CERTIFICATION

R7-2-612 Other Teaching Certificates

- A. No change
- B. No change
- C. No change
- D. Emergency Teaching Certificate – grades birth- K- grade 12

1. The emergency teaching certificate is valid one school year or part thereof. The expiration date shall be the following July 1. An emergency teaching certificate shall not be issued more than three times to an individual. An individual that receives an intern certificate and does not complete the requirements for a provisional certificate shall not be eligible for an emergency certificate.

2. The emergency teaching certificate entitles the holder to enter into a teaching contract.
3. Emergency teaching certificates shall be issued for ~~only~~ early childhood, elementary, ~~and~~ secondary, and special education certificates required by A.R.S. §15-502(B), ~~special education certificates~~, and required endorsements.
4. The emergency teaching certificate entitles the holder to teach only in the district or charter school that verifies that an emergency employment situation exists.
5. The requirements for initial issuance are:
 - a. A Bachelor's degree;
 - b. Verification from the school district superintendent or charter school administrator that an emergency employment situation exists;
 - c. A valid ~~Class 1 or Class 2~~ fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
 - d. Verification from the school district superintendent or charter school administrator that the following requirements have been met and that a highly qualified and employable candidate was not found:
 - i. The position was advertised on a statewide basis and with at least three career placement offices of higher education institutions; and
 - ii. The district or charter school is participating in any available Arizona State Board approved alternative path to certification program(s). This requirement may be waived if a district superintendent or charter school administrator provides

evidence that an alternative path to certification program is either not available or not capable of alleviating the emergency employment situation.

6. ~~The~~ In addition to the requirements listed in R7-2-612(D)(5) the requirements for reissuance are shall include six semester hours of education courses completed since the last issuance of the emergency teaching certificate.

- a. ~~Verification from the school district superintendent that an emergency employment situation exists;~~
- b. ~~Six semester hours of education courses toward meeting the requirements for the specified certificate or endorsement, completed since the last issuance of the emergency teaching certificate; and~~
- c. ~~A valid Class 1 or Class 2 fingerprint clearance card.~~

E. Teaching Intern Certificate

1. Except as noted, the teaching intern certificate is subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607.
2. ~~1-~~ The certificate is valid for two years one year from the date of initial issuance and may be extended for one year at no cost to the applicant if the provisions in R7-2-612(E)(7) are met. and is not renewable.
3. ~~2-~~ The teaching intern certificate entitles the holder to enter into a teaching contract while completing the requirements for an Arizona provisional teaching certificate. The candidate shall be enrolled in an Arizona State Board authorized alternative path to certification program, or an Arizona State Board approved teacher

~~preparation program, perform intern or paraprofessional duties in whatever grades or levels are assigned.~~

3. ~~The requirements are:~~

- ~~a. Current enrollment in a teacher preparation program;~~
- ~~b. A recommendation from the dean of a college of education or the administrator of a Board-approved teacher preparation program; and~~
- ~~c. A valid Class 1 or Class 2 fingerprint clearance card.~~

4. The teaching intern certificate is valid only in the Arizona school district or charter school that requests the certificate and is not transferable.

5. An individual is not eligible to hold the teaching intern certificate more than once in a five year period.

6. The requirements for initial issuance of the teaching intern certificate are:

- a. A Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution;
- b. A passing score on one or more subject knowledge portions of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment which corresponds to the applicant's teaching assignment(s);
- c. A letter of intent to hire or a contract indicating full-time contracted employment to include grade-level and content signed by the district superintendent or charter school administrator
- d. Verification of enrollment in an Arizona State Board approved alternative path to certification program, or an Arizona State Board approved teacher preparation program; and

- e. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- 7. The requirements for the extension of the teaching intern certificate are:
 - a. Qualification for the initial issuance of the teaching intern certificate outlined in R7-2-612 (E) (6);
 - b. A contract indicating full-time employment to include grade-level and content signed by the district superintendent or charter school administrator;
 - c. Official transcripts documenting the completion of required coursework; and
 - d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Education.
- 8. The holder of the teaching intern certificate may be eligible to apply for an Arizona Provisional Teaching Certificate prior to the teaching intern certificate's expiration upon the following:
 - a. Successful completion of an Arizona State Board authorized alternative path to certification program or an Arizona State Board approved teacher preparation program;
 - b. A passing score on the required professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Teacher Proficiency Assessment;
 - c. The submission of an application for the provisional teaching certificate to the Arizona Department of Education; and
 - d. A valid fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

F. No change

G. No change

H. No change

I. No change

J. No change